

Appl No.: 10/809020
Response dated: April 11, 2008
Office Action dated: January 14, 2008

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 34-41, 43-44 and 46-50 remain in this application. Claim 1 has been amended. Claims 42 and 45 have been cancelled. New claims 51 and 52 have been added.

According to the Examiner, an election of species was necessary, in particular between claims 46-48. Applicants elect the species disclosed in claim 46.

§ 102 Rejections

In view of the above amendments to the claims, applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of claims 34-45 and 49 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Ogawa.

Claim 34 requires an intermediate product used in the manufacture of an optical fiber. Conversely, Ogawa discloses an actual optical fiber with protective coating thereon, not an article which can be drawn into an optical fiber.

In view of the above amendments to the claims, applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of claims 34-40, 46 and 49 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Siegmund.

Claim 1 has been amended to require that the protective layer include an organic material which comprises at least one of a hydrocarbon silane, fluorocarbon silane, epoxy functional silanes, acrylate functional silane, amine functional silane, thiol functional silane, phenyl functional silane, an alkyl and aryl ammonium compound, acrylate polymer, polyvinyl alcohol, and a wax. Siegmund does not mention or suggest any of these materials.

Appl No.: 10/809020
Response dated: April 11, 2008
Office Action dated: January 14, 2008

In view of the above amendments to the claims, applicant respectfully traverse the rejection of claims 34-38, 41-43, 45, 46 and 49 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by JP 2-258643.

Claim 1 has been amended to require that the protective layer include an organic material which comprises at least one of a hydrocarbon silane, fluorocarbon silane, epoxy functional silanes, acrylate functional silane, amine functional silane, thiol functional silane, phenyl functional silane, an alkyl and aryl ammonium compound, acrylate polymer, polyvinyl alcohol, and a wax. JP 2-258643 does not mention or suggest any of these materials.

New claims 51-52 have been added. Applicants submit that none of the references cited by the patent Office in the above rejections discloses a silica-containing article which is or can be used to form an optical fiber preform from which a fiber can be drawn; and a protective layer formed on said silica-containing article, wherein the protective layer is an organic material which forms a self-assembled monolayer on the silica-containing article.

In particular, as mentioned above, Ogawa discloses an actual optical fiber with protective coating thereon, not an article which can be drawn into an optical fiber. Neither Siegmund nor JP 2-258643 mentions or suggests forming a self-assembled monolayer on the silica-containing article.

Based upon the above amendments, remarks, and papers of records, applicant believes the pending claims of the above-captioned application are in allowable form and patentable over the prior art of record. Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

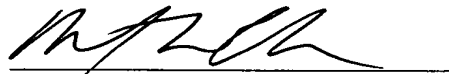
Applicant believes that no extension of time is necessary to make this Reply timely. Should applicant be in error, applicant respectfully requests that the Office

Appl No.: 10/809020
Response dated: April 11, 2008
Office Action dated: January 14, 2008

grant such time extension pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) as necessary to make this Reply timely, and hereby authorizes the Office to charge any necessary fee or surcharge with respect to said time extension to the deposit account of the undersigned firm of attorneys, Deposit Account 03-3325.

Please direct any questions or comments to Robert L. Carlson at 607-974-3502.

Respectfully submitted,



DATE: April 11, 2008

Robert L. Carlson
Attorney for Assignee
Registration Number: 35,473
Corning Incorporated
SP-TI-03-1
Corning, NY 14831
Phone: 607-974-3502